HOUSE BILL 2497

By Holt

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, relative to student behavior and disciplinary codes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-4007, is amended by deleting the language "shall be posted at each school," and by substituting instead "shall be posted and prominently displayed at each school, in the office of the principal,".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-4003(a), is amended by deleting the language "and other subjects that the local governing body chooses to include." and substituting the following:

and other subjects that the local governing body chooses, including:

- (1) The circumstances in which a student may be removed from a classroom, suspended or expelled from school pursuant to § 49-6-3401 or sent to an alternative school pursuant to § 49-6-3402;
- (2) The conditions that authorize or require a principal or administrator to transfer a student to an alternative school pursuant to § 49-6-3402;
- (3) Good and sufficient reasons to suspend a student pursuant to § 49-6-3401 or § 49-6-4216;
- (4) The consideration given to the student, prior to the suspension, expulsion or transfer to an alternative school, based on:
 - (A) Self-defense, pursuant to § 49-6-3401;
 - (B) The intent or lack thereof at the time the student engaged in the conduct:

- (C) A student's disciplinary history; or
- (D) A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
- (5) The guidelines for the length of a time in which a student may be suspended or expelled from school pursuant to § 49-6-3401;
- (6) The notification from the principal to the student's parent or guardian and the director of schools or the director of school's designee of the student's violation of the student code of conduct that results in the student's suspension, expulsion or a transfer to an alternative school; and
- (7) The policy prohibiting harassment, intimidation, bullying or cyber-bullying pursuant to chapter 6, part 45 of this title.
- SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014, the public welfare requiring it.